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Biden's Office Secures \$551,426 for Delaware in Settlement with Pharmaceutical Company
GlaxoSmithKline to pay states more than \$40 million

Wilmington – Delaware will receive \$551,426 as part of a 38-state settlement with pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline to resolve allegations of substandard manufacturing processes, Attorney General Beau Biden announced today.

“Pharmaceutical manufacturers have a responsibility to produce drugs that are safe and generated according to strict guidelines,” said Attorney General Biden. “We hold drug companies to a high standard because that’s what consumers and their families deserve.”

In the complaint, filed June 23 along with the settlement agreement, the Attorneys General of 38 states allege that GlaxoSmithKline, LLC (GSK) and SB Pharmco Puerto Rico, Inc. (SB Pharmco) engaged in unfair and deceptive trade practices regarding the manufacture and distribution of certain lots of four drugs produced at their facility in Cidra, Puerto Rico. Specifically, they allege that certain lots of the following drugs became adulterated as a result of substandard manufacturing processes: Kytril, a sterile drug used to prevent nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy and radiation cancer treatments; Bactroban, a topical antibiotic ointment used to treat skin infections; Paxil CR, a controlled-release form of the antidepressant medication Paxil; and Avandamet, a combination Type II diabetes drug.

Under the terms of the settlement, GSK and SB Pharmco:

- Are enjoined from making false, misleading or deceptive claims regarding the manufacturing of all drugs formerly manufactured at the Cidra facility regardless of where these drugs are now produced
- Must not misrepresent those drugs’ characteristics, or cause likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding about the way in which they are manufactured

Delaware’s share of the settlement will be returned to the Consumer Protection Fund.

GSB and SB Pharmco are no longer producing drugs at the Cidra facility, which was closed in 2009. Because the lots in question were recalled many years ago and/or have passed their expiration dates, consumers should have no current cause for concern. If they have questions or concerns, consumers should discuss them with their health-care provider.

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